

Brad D. Houghtaling
230 Wellington Road
Syracuse, NY 13214-2226

January 26, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft
US Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530

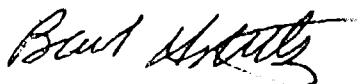
Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

I am violently opposed to the antitrust lawsuit against the Microsoft Corporation, I personally feel that the suit should be dropped, and Microsoft left alone. This case defies the very ideal of free enterprise upon which this nation has been built, and this case does nothing but damage the entrepreneurial spirit that has heretofore been celebrated in this nation.

I understand that Microsoft has agreed to the settlement that has been reached in this case because it would simply like to see this litigation end. While I do not agree that Microsoft should have to settle I understand their desire to see the end of this lawsuit. The terms of the settlement, while a little harsh, are not overly objectionable. Microsoft has agreed to design all future versions of its Windows operating system to be compatible with the products of its competitors, along these same lines Microsoft will disclose certain segments of source code to its competitors enabling them to design products that work within Windows, it is this term that I find most objectionable. I believe that the parties trying to perpetuate this litigation are seeing only their own political ends rather than a fair solution to this dispute.

Please ensure the passage of this settlement. American business needs your support.
Thank you.

Sincerely,



Brad Houghtaling